

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Hatsuo Nakao, *et al.*  
Serial No: 09/986,196  
Filed: November 7, 2001  
For: VEHICLE DRIVING APPARATUS  
Group Art Unit: 3661  
Examiner: Thu V. Nguyen

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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APR 16 2004  
**GROUP 3600**

**SUBMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.114**

SIR:

In response to the final Office Action mailed January 13, 2004 in the above-identified application, the Applicant respectfully includes the following submission with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.